

Message Text

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51

ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 AF-06 EA-06

NEA-09 OIC-02 ABF-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00 SP-02 AID-05 L-02

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 /085 W

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R 261011Z FEB 75

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 971

INFO AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: AORG OCON WTO

SUBJ: WTO ASSEMBLY DATE CONFIRMED; 1976-7 BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS

REF: A) GENEVA 1120; B) GENEVA 1195

1. FIRST ASSEMBLY, WTO: WTO SYG LONATI INFORMED MISSION OFFICER THAT SPANISH MISSION, GENEVAN HAS CONFIRMED IN WRITING OPENING DATE OF MAY 12 FOR FIRST TWO GENERAL ASSEMBLY. HE ALSO REVEALED THAT CONSULTATION ON SUBJECT OF SITE HAD RESULTED IN REPLIES FAVORING MADRID BY MORE THAN TWO TO ONE. HE ADDED THAT AMONG THOSE FAVORING MADRID WERE SEVERAL LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES.

2. 1976-7 WTO BUDGET: LONATI EXPRESSED SOME EMBARRASSMENT, IN RETROSPECT, AT SIZE OF HIS PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 1976-7 (REF B), AND ADMITTED THAT HE DID NOT EXPECT TO BE ABLE TO SPEND ALL THAT HE ASKED FOR IN 1976. MISSION OFFICER RESPONDED THAT BUDGET AS PROPOSED WAS TOO HIGH FOR USG, THAT IT WAS US POSITION, SHARED BY MANY OTHERS, THAT NO INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGENCY SHOULD EVER ASK FOR MORE FUNDS THAN IT CAN ACTUALLY SPEND IN A GIVEN PERIOD. LONATI NOTED THAT WHATEVER WAS NOT

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SPENT IN THE FIRST BIENNIAL PERIOD WOULD BE CREDITED TO

MEMBER STATES ON THE BASIS OF THE ASSESSMENT PLAN ADOPTED
BY THE WTO ASSEMBLY; RECOGNIZED THAT FIRST ASSEMBLY HAD POWER
TO REDUCE HIS BUDGET, AND IMPLIED HE WOULD NOT BE
SURPRISED IF THEY DID SO.

3. COMMENT: OTHER MISSIONS IN GENEVA EXPRESS VIEW THAT
\$4 MILLION FOR 1976-77 BUDGET WOULD BE MUCH MORE REALISTIC
FIGURE THAN PROPOSED \$6 MILLION AND EVN THAT MIGHT BE TOO
HIGH. DALE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 FEB 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ellisoob
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975GENEVA01293
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750067-1035
From: GENEVA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750212/aaaaakep.tel
Line Count: 70
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 GENEVA 1120, 75 GENEVA 1195
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ellisoob
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12 JUN 2003 by SmithRJ>; APPROVED <28 OCT 2003 by ellisoob>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: WTO ASSEMBLY DATE CONFIRMED; 1976-7 BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS
TAGS: AORG, OCON, WTO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006